In regard to text books I do not think it will be possible for the Government to supply them free to one community, for others also will claim the same and that will make a very heavy strain upon the finances of the Government. Already the Government have, in the case of vernacular text books, reduced the price to the lowest possible minimum.

Appointments to Cheramars, like all the other communities in the State, will be given when opportunities occur.

In the matter of exemption from age limit, Government will always be prepared to consider deserving cases, each one on its own merits. But a general exemption for the whole of any one particular community is not possible.

In the matter of appointing members of your community as group secretaries I shall refer the matter to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

The Government always take care that this community is, whenever possible, represented in the Popular Assembly and when the limited number of seats available in the Legislative Council is increased, representation will be given there also. But it is not possible at present.

153. [Concessions to Pulayas in the matter of education and of appointment in the public service.

MR. AIYAN KALI (*Member, Nominated*) said that the question of supplying free mid-day meals to the pupils of the depressed classes was still under the consideration of Government and he requested that favourable orders might be issued in the matter as early as possible. The students of the depressed classes who wanted to join the colleges could not do so for want of money. Full fee concession should therefore be granted to these students. Though there were several qualified candidates among the Pulayas, none was appointed in the Education Department in spite of repeated representations. So also there were six Pulaya girls who had passed the School Leaving Examination but not one of them was able to secure a permanent place in the Education Department. Pulaya young men who were able to read and write should be appointed as peons in all departments at least one per taluk. In the Police and Excise Departments particularly, no new recruitments should be made before a few places were given to the Pulayas. A few Pulaya young men should also be sent by Government to foreign countries for higher studies in agriculture, industries etc.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Aiyan Kali, I cannot promise that I will order the 32 taluk offices to employ a peon each. I will have a circular sent out that more Pulayas should be employed.

Then as regards the other point, viz., mid-day meals for Pulaya children, I believe that question is being examined.

I shall make special enquiries as to how those six Pulaya girls failed to get Government employment.

154. Concessions to the Parayas.

MR. KANTAN KUMARAN (*Member, Nominated*) stated that though orders had been issued by Government for concessional registry of lands in the names of the Parayas and other depressed classes, the lands that were actually registered in their names were but few. Most of the applications submitted in pursuance of these orders were still pending with the various officers.

(1) Applications had been made for the registry of 65 acres of lands in the Mavelikara taluk, 20 acres in survey No. 101/2 C. in the Vallikunnam pakuthi, 5 acres in Survey No. 228/1 in the same pakuthi, and 40 acres in Survey No. 119/1 in the Tamaracolam pakuthi. The Tahsildar, Mavelikara, had recommended the registry of these lands in 1097, and the parties had produced a copy of the plan of the lands before the Dewan Peishkar, Quilon, on the 3rd Makaram 1101. But the lands had not yet been registered

(2) Applications had been made since 1095 for the registry of 82 acres, 3 cents of land comprised in Survey Nos. 627/1 and 630/2 in the Kunnathur pakuthy,

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